

# “Starry Hospitality Night” on Dec. 5 kicks off Zwaanendael Museum’s seasonal programming

List of the museum’s special events through April 2014 also included



On Thursday, Dec. 5, 2013, from 6 to 9 p.m., the [Zwaanendael Museum](#), located at 102 Kings Highway in Lewes, DE 19958, will kick-off its celebration of the winter-holiday season with the program “Starry Hospitality Night,” an evening of music, festive décor and refreshments capped off with star-gazing in honor of the Delaware-born astronomer [Annie Jump Cannon](#). The event will feature Bill Ayrey, lab manager and company historian from [ILC Dover](#), who will demonstrate the space suit that the company manufactures for NASA. “Starry Hospitality Night” is presented in conjunction with the Lewes Chamber of Commerce’s [Hospitality Night in Historic Lewes](#).

On Saturday, Dec. 7, 2013, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., the museum will take part in the Lewes Historical Society’s [Christmas Tour of Lewes](#) with the program, “Tour Zwaanendael Museum,” which will provide visitors with an opportunity to explore the site’s exhibits on the Lewes-area’s maritime, military and social history.

Finally, on Wednesday, Dec. 11, 2013 at 2 p.m., the museum will offer a program in celebration of the 150th birthday of the noted Delaware astronomer Annie Jump Cannon.

Current exhibits at the Zwaanendael Museum include “[A Seaborne Citizenry: The DeBraak and Its Atlantic World](#)” which tells the

story of His Majesty's Sloop DeBraak, a British warship that sank off the Delaware coast on May 25, 1798; and "[Delaware and the War of 1812](#)" which examines the service and sacrifice of Delawareans of 1812 to 1815, and the important role that the state played in a conflict that helped shape the development of the United States as a nation.

**Following is a complete schedule of Zwaanendael Museum special events through April 2014. Admission is free for all events listed. For additional information, call 302-645-1148.**

**Thursday, Dec. 5, 2013**

**"Starry Hospitality Night."** Holiday-themed program includes star-gazing in celebration of Delaware astronomer Annie Jump Cannon plus Bill Ayrey, lab manager and company historian from ILC Dover demonstrating the space suit that the company manufactures for NASA. The evening will also feature music, festive décor and refreshments. 6–9 p.m.

**Saturday, Dec. 7, 2013**

**"Tour Zwaanendael Museum."** Enjoy the museum's festive holiday-décor. Event held in conjunction with the Lewes Historical Society's Christmas Tour of Lewes. 10 a.m.–4 p.m.

**Wednesday, Dec. 11, 2013**

**"Annie Jump Cannon."** Celebrate the 150th birthday of the noted Delaware astronomer. Program at 2 p.m. Museum open 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

**Saturday, Jan. 18, 2014**

**"Delaware's Decades—the 1940s: 'Ft. Miles.' "** Lecture by Dr. Gary Wray on the World War II-era military installation on CapeHenlopen. Part two of an eight-part series exploring decades in Delaware's history. Program at 2 p.m. Museum open 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

**Saturday, Feb. 15, 2014**

**"Delaware's Decades—the 1950s: 'Menhaden Industry in Lewes.' "** Lecture by Tom Brown, Lewes Historical Society volunteer

and former archivist with the National Archives. Part three of an eight-part series exploring decades in Delaware's history. Program at 2 p.m. Museum open 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

**Saturday, March 15, 2014**

**"Delaware's Decades—the 1960s: 'History of the Cape May-Lewes Ferry.' "** Lecture by J. Fred Coldren, former business manager of the Cape May-Lewes Ferry and historian for the 50th anniversary of the ferry. Part four of an eight-part series exploring decades in Delaware's history. Program at 2 p.m. Museum open 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

**Thursday–Saturday, April 10-13, 2014**

**Lewes Tulip Festival**. City-wide series of activities celebrating Lewes' Dutch heritage including Dutch games, crafts and a display of Delftware ceramics at the Zwaanendael Museum. Sponsored by the Lewes Chamber of Commerce. Downtown Lewes, DE19958. 302-645-8073.

**Saturday, April 19, 2014**

**Dutch-American Friendship Day**. Discover Delaware's Dutch roots and learn how that connection is alive today. 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

**Saturday, April 26, 2014**

**King's Day**. Help celebrate the birthday of King Willem-Alexander of the Netherlands in a program that will also explore royal titles and Delaware's Dutch connection. 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

**-End-**

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